Designing in CorelDRAW

Part 2

Objective:

By Completing this module, you will be able to understand:

1. What is CorelDRAW?
2. Its application window
3. Different Toolbars
4. Different Tools in the Toolbox

CorelDRAW is a vector graphics editor developed and marketed by Corel Corporation.

Characteristic features

Several innovations to vector-based illustration originated with CorelDRAW: a node-edit tool that operates differently on different objects, fit text-to-path, stroke-before-fill, quick fill/stroke color selection palettes, perspective projections, mesh fills and complex gradient fills.

CorelDRAW differentiates itself from its competitors in a number of ways:
The first is its positioning as a graphics suite, rather than just a vector graphics program. A full range of editing tools allow the user to adjust contrast, color balance, change the format from RGB to CMYK, add special effects such as vignettes and special borders to bitmaps. It also allows a laser to cut out any drawings.

CorelDRAW is used for creating Vector-based illustrations

CorelDRAW is capable of handling multiple pages along with multiple master layers. Multipage documents are easy to create and edit. One of the useful features for single and multi-page documents is the ability to create linked text boxes across documents that can be resized and moved while the text itself resets and flows through the boxes. Useful for creating and editing multi-article Newsletters, Brochures, Booklets, etc.

Bitmaps can also be edited more extensively using Corel PhotoPaint, opening the bitmap directly from CorelDRAW and returning to the program after saving.

CorelDRAW Terminology

Before getting started with CorelDRAW the following terminologies are important to remember:

Term	Description
Object	An element in a drawing such as an image, shape, line, text, curve, symbol or layer
Drawing	The work you create in CorelDRAW ex: logos, posters, newsletters etc.
Vector Graphic	An image generated from mathematical
Bitmap	An image composed of grids of pixels or dots
Docker	A window containing available commands and settings relevant to a specific tool or task
Flyout	A button that opens a group of related tools or menu items
Artistic text	A type of text to which you can apply special effects, such as shadows
Paragraph text	A type of text to which you can apply formatting options and which can be edited in large blocks

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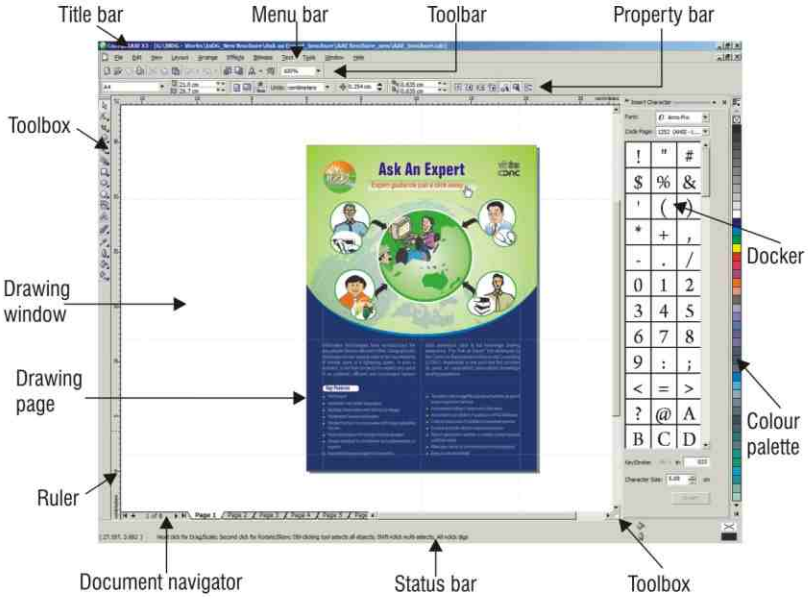
CorelDRAW application window

When you launch CorelDRAW, the application window opens containing a drawing window. The rectangle in the center of the drawing window is the drawing page where you. create your drawing. Although more than one drawing window can be opened, you can apply commands to the active drawing window only.

The Core1DRAW application window appears below. A description of its parts follows:



Part	Description
Menu bar	The area containing pull-down menu options
Property bar	A detachable bar with commands that relate to the active tool or object. For example, when the text tool is active, the text property bar displays commands that create and edit text
Toolbar	A detachable bar that contains shortcuts to menu and other commands
Title bar	The area displaying the title of the currently open drawing
Rulers	Horizontal and vertical borders that are used to determine the size and position of objects in a drawing
Toolbox	A floating bar with tools for creating, filling,and modifying objects in the drawing

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Part	Description
Drawing window	The area outside the drawing page bordered by the scroll bars and application controls
Drawing page	The rectangular area inside the drawing window. It is the printable area of your work area
Colour palette	A dockable bar that contains color swatches
Docker	A window containing available commands and settings relevant to a specific tool or task
Status bar	An area at the bottom of the application window that contains information about object properties such as type, size, color, fill, and resolution. The status bar also shows the current mouse position.
Document navigator	The area at the bottom left of the application window that contains controls for moving between pages and adding pages
Navigator	A button at the lower-right corner that opens a smaller display to help you move around a drawing

The property bar, dockers, toolbars, and toolbox can be opened, closed, and moved around your screen at any time.

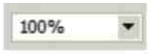
CorelDRAW workspace tools

Application commands are accessible through the menu bar, toolbars, toolbox, property bar, and dockers. The property bar and dockers provide access to commands that relate to the active tool or current task.

You can customize many of these workspace tools to suit your needs. For more information, see "Customizing your application" in the Help.

The standard toolbar, which appears by default, contains buttons and controls that are shortcuts to many of the menu commands.

Click this button	To
	Start a new drawing
	Open a drawing
	Save a drawing
	Print a drawing
	Cut selected objects to the clipboard
	Copy selected objects to the clipboard

Click this button	To
	Paste the clipboard contents into a drawing
	Undo an action
	Restore an action that was undone
	Import a drawing
	Export a drawing
	Start Corel applications
	Access the Corel Grahics Community Website
	Set a zoom level

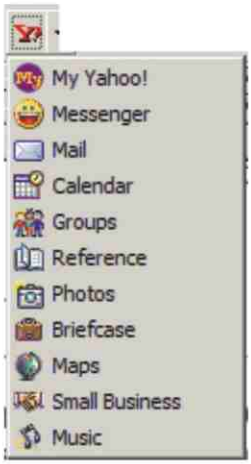
If you use a toolbar frequently, you can display it in the workspace at all times.

More about toolbars

In addition to the standard toolbar, Core1DRAW has toolbars for specific kinds of tasks. For example, the Text toolbar contains commands relevant to using the Text tool.

The following table describes toolbars other than the standard toolbar.

Toolbar	Description
Yahoo! Toolbar	Lets you access services on Yahoo.com, such as Calendar and Mail, and use Yahoo! Search to search the Web. You need an Internet connection to use the Yahoo! Toolbar.



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Toolbar	Description
Text	Contains commands for formatting and aligning text

Zoom	Contains commands for zooming in and out of a drawing page by specifying percentage of original view, clicking the Zoom tool, and selecting a page view

Internet	Contains commands for Web-related tools for creating rollovers and publishing to the Internet

Print merge	Contains commands for print merge items that combine text with a drawing such as creating and loading data files, creating data fields for variable text, and inserting print merge fields

Transform	Contains commands for skewing, rotating, and mirroring objects

Visual Basic for Applications	Contains commands for editing, testing, and running VBA commands

If you use a toolbar frequently, you can display it in the workspace at all times.

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Clicking a flyout arrow opens a set of related tools.

Exploring the toolbox

Flyouts open to display a set of related CorelDRAW tools. A small arrow in the bottom, right corner of a toolbox button indicates a flyout: for example, the Shape edit flyout. Clicking and dragging the grab handles at the end of the flyout sets the flyout in its expanded form.

The following table provides descriptions of the flyouts and tools in the CorelDRAW toolbox.

Flyout	Description
Shape edit	Lets you access the Shape, Smudge brush, Roughen brush, and Free transform tools
Crop tool	Lets you access the Crop, Knife, Eraser, and Virtual segment delete tools
Zoom	Lets you access the Zoom and Hand tools
Curve tool	Lets you access the Freehand, Bezier, Artistic media, Pen, Polyline, 3 point curve, Interactive connector, and Dimension tools
Smart tool	Lets you access the Smart fill and Smart drawing tools
Rectangle	Lets you access the Rectangle and 3 point rectangle tools
Ellipse	Lets you access the Ellipse and 3 point ellipse tools
Object	Lets you access the Polygon, Star, Complex Star, Graph paper, and Spiral tools
Perfect shapes	Lets you access the Basic shapes, Arrow shapes, Flowchart shapes, Banner shapes, and Callout shapes tools
Interactive tools	Lets you access the interactive blend, Interactive contour, Interactive distortion, Interactive drop shadow, Interactive envelope, Interactive extrude, and Interactive transparency tools
Eyedropper	Lets you access the Eyedropper and Paintbucket tools
Outline	Lets you access the Outline pen and Outline color dialog boxes, a selection of outlines of various widths, and the Color docker

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Flyout		Description
Fill		Lets you access the Color docker, Fill color, Fountain fill, Pattern fill, Texture fill, and PostScript® fill dialog boxes
Interactive fill		Lets you access Interactive fill and Interactive mesh fill tools

Tools

Tool	Description
	The Pick tool lets you select and size, skew, and rotate objects
	The Shape tool lets you edit the shape of objects
	The Smudge brush tool lets you distort a vector object by dragging along its outline
	The Roughen brush tool lets you distort the outline of a vector object by dragging along the outline
	The Free transform tool lets you transform an object by using the Free rotation, Angle rotation, Scale, and Skew tools
	The Crop tool lets you remove unwanted areas in objects
	The Knife tool lets you cut through objects
	The Eraser tool lets you remove areas of your drawing
	The Virtual segment delete tool lets you delete portions of objects that are between intersections
	The Zoom tool lets you change the magnification level in the drawing window
	The Hand tool lets you control which part of the drawing is visible in the drawing window
	The Freehand tool lets you draw single line segments and curves
	The Bezier tool lets you draw curves one segment at a time

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Tool	Description
	The Artistic media tool provides access to the Brush, Sprayer, Calligraphic, and Pressure tools
	The Pen tool lets you draw curves one segment at a time
	The Polyline tool lets you draw lines and curves in preview mode
	The 3 point curve tool lets you draw a curve by defining the start, end, and center point
	The Interactive connector tool lets you join two objects with a line
	The Dimension tool lets you draw vertical, horizontal, slanted, or angular dimension lines
	The Smart fill tool lets you create objects from enclosed areas and then apply a fill to those objects
	The Smart drawing tool converts the freehand strokes that you draw to basic shapes and smoothed curves
	The Rectangle tool lets you draw rectangles and squares
	The 3 point rectangle tool lets you draw rectangles at an angle
	The Ellipse tool lets you draw ellipses and circles
	The 3 point ellipse tool lets you draw ellipses at an angle
	The Polygon tool lets you draw symmetrical polygons and stars
	The Star tool lets you draw perfect stars
	The Complex star tool lets you draw complex stars that have intersecting sides
	The Graph paper tool lets you draw a grid of lines similar to that on graph paper
	The Spiral tool lets you draw symmetrical and logarithmic spirals
	The Basic shapes tool lets you choose from a full set of shapes, including hexagram, a smiley face, and a right-angle triangle

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Tool	Description
	The Arrow shapes tool lets you draw arrows of various shape, direction, and number of heads
	The Flowchart shapes tool lets you draw flowchart symbols
	The Banner shapes tool lets you draw ribbon objects and explosion shapes
	The Callout shapes tool lets you draw callouts and labels
	The Text tool lets you type words directly on the screen as artistic or paragraph text
	The Interactive blend tool lets you blend two objects
	The Interactive contour tool lets you apply a contour to an object
	The Interactive distortion tool lets you apply a Push or Pull distortion, a Zipper distortion, or a Twister distortion to an object
	The Interactive drop shadow tool lets you apply a drop shadow to an object
	The Interactive envelope tool lets you distort an object by dragging the nodes of the envelope
	The Interactive extrude tool lets you apply the illusion of depth to objects
	The Interactive transparency tool lets you apply transparencies to objects
	The Eyedropper tool lets you select and copy object properties, such as fill, line thickness, size, and effects, from an object on the drawing window
	The Paintbucket tool lets you apply object properties, such as fill, line thickness, size and effects, to an object in the drawing window after you select these properties with the Eyedropper tool
	The Outline tool lets you set outline properties

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Tool	Description
	The Fill tool lets you set the fill properties
	The Interactive fill tool lets you apply various fills
	The Interactive mesh tool lets you apply a mesh grid to an object

Property bar

The property bar displays the most commonly used functions that are relevant to the active tool or to the task you're performing. Although it looks like a toolbar, the property bar content changes depending on the tool or task.

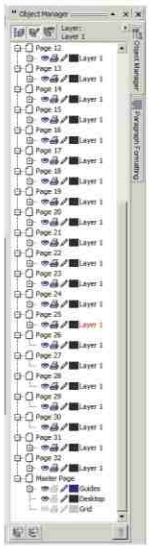
For example, when you click the Text tool in the Toolbox, the property bar displays only text related commands. In the example below, the property bar displays text, formatting, alignment, and editing tools.

Dockers

Dockers display the same types of controls as a dialog box, such as command buttons, options, and list boxes.

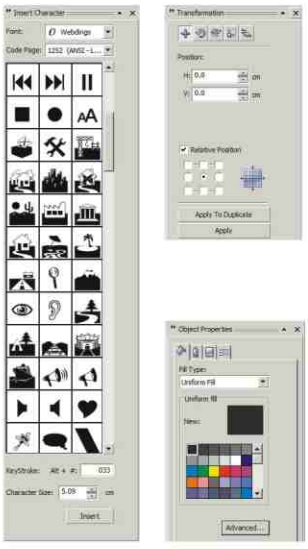
Dockers can be either docked or floating. Docking a docker attaches it to the edge of the application window. Unlocking a docker detaches it from other parts of the workspace, so it can be easily moved around. You can also collapse dockers to save screen space.

Unlike most dialog boxes, you can keep dockers open while working on a document, so you can readily access the commands to experiment with different effects.



Docked and nested dockers

A floating docker



Examples of other dockers

If you open several dockers, they usually appear nested, with only one docker fully displayed. You can quickly display a docker hidden from view by clicking the docker's tab.

To dock a floating docker, click the docker's title bar, and drag to position the pointer on the edge of the drawing window. To close a docker, click the X button at the top corner; to collapse or expand a docker, click the arrow button at the top corner.

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Status bar

The status bar displays information about selected objects (such as colour, fill type, outline, cursor position and relevant commands)